पर रोक लगाने के लिये कोई नया तथा प्रभावी कानून बनाने का विचार रखती है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) कानून की अवहेलना करने वाले उद्योगपतियों/मालिकों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई के लिये प्रस्तावित कानून में क्या प्रावधान होगा और उक्त कानून कब तक लागू किया जायेगा ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वीरेन्द्र कुमार) : (क) 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार कामकाजी बालकों की संख्या 11.28 मिलियन है सर्वाधिक संख्या में कामकाजी बालक वाला राज्य आंध्र प्रदेश है । 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार राज्य में 1.66 मिलियन कामकाजी बालक थे । वे अन्य राज्य जिनमें कामकाजी बालकों की जनसंख्या 1 मिलियन से अधिक है, वे हैं उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र । बालकों के नियोजन के संबंध में उद्योग-विशिष्ट सूचना उपलब्ध जनगणना में सूचित नहीं की जाती है ।

(ख) से (घ) सरकार की नीति सभी व्यवसायों और उद्योगों में बाल श्रम का उन्मूलन करने की है । इस उद्देश्य को प्राप्त करने की दृष्टि से बाल श्रम के उत्तरोत्तर उन्मूलन के लिये सरकार ने अनेक उपाय किये हैं । तथापि, सभी प्रकार के उद्योगों में बाल श्रम के नियोजन को पूर्ण प्रतिषेध लगाने का वर्तमान में कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Welfare measure for Tendu Leaf collectors

2573 SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) the number of Tendu Beedi leaf collectors in the country;

(b) whether any census has been conducted to identify and enumerate the number of Tendu leaf collectors, state wise;

(c) whether housing and other benefits are being extended to millions of Tendu leaf collectors; and

(d) if so, the details of welfare measures for their benefit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

सरकार की पूर्व अनुमति के बिना औद्योगिक एककों को बंद किया जाना

2574. श्री शक्तीर सिंह सुरजावाला :
श्री अजीत जोगी :

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार औद्योगिक एककों को पूर्व अनुमति लिये बिना बंद करने के उपायों पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या श्रमिकों के संरक्षण पर विचार किया गया है;

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में श्रमिकों की भी राय जानी गई है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या नीति है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम०वी० वीरेन्द्र कुमार) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Minimum wages to workers

2575. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to see that the notified

minimum wages rates applicable to workers in various occupations are implemented fully, in letter and spirit and

(b) whether Government are granting notified minimum wages to workers engaged in developmental programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) The enforcement machinery set up for enforcing provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is expected to conduct inspection and taken action against defaulting employer whenever any violation to the Act is detected.

(b) Under the rural developmental programmes like Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, wages are to be paid as per minimum rates of wages as notified by the concerned State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for the relevant scheduled employment. The Central Government on its part have informed the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations that it will withhold the grants to the States/Union Terriories in case the implementing agencies do not pay the minimum notified wages to the workers employed in the rural developmental programme.

Agenda in the Labour Ministers' conference

2576. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Labour Ministers was held in New Delhi in July, this year;

(b) if so, what were the main items on the agenda;

(c) what decisions were taken therein on the question of providing more teeth, vigour and dimensions to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and enacting a Central law on farm workers; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) A conference of State Labour Ministers was held on 7-8th July, 1997 to review the progress in the implementation of the directives of the Supreme Court on child labour and to discuss the issue of suitable legislative framework to address the problem of child labour, the provisions of the Central Legislation on Agricultural Workers and dual control on the administration of medical care in ESI Corporation.

(c) and (d) In the conference certain suggestions were made to make Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, more effective. These suggestions, inter alia, included that the burden of proof in regard to age and employment of child should be on the employer, the offence should be made a cognizable one and the penalties should be more stringent and deterrent. These suggestions would be duly taken into account while finalising the amendment proposals.

In regard to the proposed central legislation on agricultural workers, representatives of State Govt., expressed different views. While the State of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Tripura, Kerala, Rajasthan, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Orissa, Jammu & Kashmir, Goa, Assam Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman Nicobar Islands, National Capital Territory of Delhi & Union Territory of Chandigarh supported the proposed legislation, the State Govt. of Punab, Haryana, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat had certain reservation about it in view of the local condition prevailing in these States.